

Mayoral Proclamation


- Whereas** for over forty years Fran Purnell organized, coached and managed the Waterville Little League program, volunteering his spring and summer nights and weekends to bring the baseball program to a level of excellence; and
- Whereas** Fran Purnell and his volunteers renovated the field on Mathews Avenue by overhauling the infield and outfield, backstop, dugouts and snack shacks; installing a flag pole, PA system, remote score board and field lights; and building a storage area, press box and raising the pitcher's mound; and
- Whereas** in honor of Fran's work and dedication the Mathews Field in Waterville was renamed the Purnell Little League Field; and
- Whereas** in 1990 Fran started the "Challenger Division" for children and adults with disabilities which, after twenty-six years, he still plays an active role in on Friday evenings by coaching and supporting the program at Purnell Field; and
- Whereas** the City of Waterville is truly appreciative of the important work of Fran Purnell, his family and the many volunteers, for improving the quality of life of so many; and
- Whereas** in gratitude and honor of Fran's unselfish commitment to youth and families, the City of Waterville, along with the Alford Youth Center, will renovate the Purnell Field to become a licensed Major League Baseball Turf field, with an ADA surface, to be known as the PURNELL WRIGLEY FIELD;

Now therefore, I, Nicholas Isgro, Mayor of Waterville, on behalf of the City Council, and during this opening ceremony of the 2016 baseball season, do hereby proclaim April 23, 2016, as the official

Fran Purnell Day

in honor of Fran "Mr. Baseball" Purnell.

In Witness Whereof, I do hereby set my hand and seal this 23rd day of April, Two thousand and sixteen.



Nicholas Isgro, Mayor